CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A table system for extracting blood from an animal fetus having a placenta, the table system comprising:

a first table top;

a first panel at least partially disposed above the first table top, the first panel having a substantially planar first face, the first face being disposed at an angle in a range between about 45° to about 110° relative to the horizontal; and

a plurality of vertically and horizontally spaced apart spikes outwardly projecting from the first face of the first panel.

2. A table system as recited in claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of spikes are linear and has a sharpened end.

3. A table system as recited in claim 1, wherein the plurality of spikes comprise at least ten spikes, each spike having a maximum diameter of at least 5 mm.

4. A table system as recited in claim 1, wherein each spike is disposed so as to form an inside angle relative to the horizontal in a range between about 30° to about 60°.

5. A table system as recited in claim 1, wherein adjacent spikes are spaced apart by at least 10 cm.

WORKMAN NYDEGGER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

6. A table system as recited in claim 1, wherein the spikes are comprised of stainless steel and are welded to the first panel.

7. A table system as recited in claim 6, wherein the first panel is comprised of stainless steel.

8. A table system as recited in claim 7, wherein the first table top is comprised of stainless steel.

9. A table system as recited in claim 1, wherein the first panel is vertically spaced apart from the first table top such that an open space is formed between the first panel and the first table top.

10. A table system as recited in claim 1, wherein the first face is disposed at an angle in a range between about 85° to about 95° relative to the horizontal

WORKMAN NYDEGGER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

11. A table system as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

a second table top;

a second panel at least partially disposed above the second table top, the second panel having a substantially planar second face, the second face being disposed at an angle in a range between about 110° to about 45° relative to the horizontal; and

means for suspending an animal fetus above the second table top and against the second face of the second panel.

12. A table system as recited in claim 11, wherein the second panel is integrally formed with, is spaced apart from, or is connected to the first panel.

WORKMAN NYDEGGER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

13. A table system for extracting blood from an animal fetus having a placenta, the table system comprising:

a first table top;

a first panel at least partially disposed above the first table top, the first panel having a substantially planar first face, the first face being disposed at an angle in a range between about 45° to about 110° relative to the horizontal;

means for securing the placenta of the animal fetus substantially flat against the first face of the first panel;

a second table top;

a second panel at least partially disposed above the second table top, the second panel having a substantially planar second face, the second face being disposed at an angle in a range between about 45° to about 110° relative to the horizontal; and

means for suspending the animal fetus above the second table top and against the second face of the second panel.

WORKMAN NYDEGGER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

14. A table system as recited in claim 13, wherein the first table top comprises:

a substantially horizontally disposed first top surface having a front edge; and

a rail upstanding from the front edge along at least a portion of the first top surface.

15. A table system as recited in claim 13, wherein the first panel is vertically spaced apart from the first table top such that an open space is formed between the first panel and the first table top.

16. A table system as recited in claim 13, wherein the first panel is comprised of stainless steel.

17. A table system as recited in claim 13, wherein the means for securing the placenta comprises a plurality of spikes outwardly projecting from the first face of the first panel.

18. A table system as recited in claim 17, wherein the spikes are linear and have a sharpened end.

19. A table system as recited in claim 17, wherein the plurality of spikes are vertically and horizontally spaced apart.

WORKMAN NYDEGGER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

20. A table system as recited in claim 19, wherein the plurality of spikes comprises at least ten spikes, each spike having a maximum diameter of at least 5 mm.

21. A table system as recited in claim 19, wherein each spike is disposed so as to form an inside angle relative to the horizontal in a range between about 30° to about 60°.

22. A table system as recited in claim 13, wherein the first table top has a substantially horizontally disposed first top surface at a first elevation and the second table top has a substantially horizontally disposed second top surface at a second elevation, the first elevation being higher than the second elevation.

23. A table system as recited in claim 22, further comprising a sloping ramp extending between the first table top and the second table top.

24. A table system as recited in claim 13, wherein the first table top is integrally formed with or connected to the second table top.

25. A table system as recited in claim 13, wherein the first panel is integrally formed with or connected to the second panel.

26. A table system as recited in claim 13, wherein the means for suspending the animal fetus comprises a plurality of hooks movably mounted on the second panel.

WORKMAN NYDEGGER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

27. A table system as recited in claim 13, wherein the means for suspending the animal fetus comprises:

a rail longitudinally extending along an upper end of the second panel; and

the plurality of hooks being selectively mounted to the rail such that each of the hooks can be selectively moved and secured to a desired location along the length of the rail.

WORKMAN NYDEGGER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

28. A method for extracting blood from an animal fetus, the method comprising:

securing a placenta of an animal against a substantially planar first face, the first face being disposed at an angle in a range between about 45° to about 110° relative to the horizontal, with a fetus of the animal positioned below the placenta and attached to the placenta by an umbilical cord;

massaging the placenta against the first face so that at least a portion of the blood within the placenta flows out of the placenta through the umbilical cord and into the animal fetus;

thereafter suspending the animal fetus; and

draining at least a portion of the blood from the suspended animal fetus into a container.

29. A method as recited in claim 28, wherein the act of securing the placenta comprises pushing the placenta onto a plurality of spaced apart spikes projecting from the first face such that the spikes puncture the placenta.

30. A method as recited in claim 28, wherein the act of securing the placenta comprises spreading the placenta out so that the placenta rests substantially flat against the first face.

31. A method as recited in claim 28, further comprising resting the animal fetus on a first table top vertically disposed below the first face when the placenta is secured to the first face.

WORKMAN NYDEGGER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

32. A method as recited in claim 28, further comprising severing the umbilical cord between the placenta and the animal fetus prior to suspending the animal fetus.

33. A method as recited in claim 28, wherein the act of suspending the animal fetus comprises suspending the animal fetus so that the animal fetus biases or is disposed directly adjacent to a second face, the second face being disposed at an angle in a range between about 45° to about 110° relative to the horizontal.

34. A method as recited in claim 33, wherein the act of draining the blood comprises massaging the animal fetus against the second face so as to move the blood toward the heart of the animal.

35. A method as recited in claim 33, wherein the second face is integrally formed with or is connected to the first face.

36. A method as recited in claim 34, wherein the act of draining the blood comprises inserting a needle into the heart of the animal fetus, the blood draining out of the heart through the needle and into the container.

WORKMAN NYDEGGER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

37. A method as recited in claim 28, wherein the act of suspending comprises:

securing a first hook to a nose of the animal fetus; and

securing a second hook in the anus of the animal fetus, the first and second hook each being secured to the second panel.

WORKMAN NYDEGGER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

38. A method for extracting blood from a placenta of an animal, the method comprising:

passing a plurality of spaced apart spikes projecting from an at least substantially planar face through a placenta of an animal so that the placenta is securely disposed against the face; and

massaging the placenta against the face so that at least a portion of the blood within the placenta flows out of the placenta through an umbilical cord.

39. A method as recited in claim 38, wherein the blood passes through the umbilical cord associated with the placenta and into an animal fetus which has been removed from the placenta without severing the umbilical cord.

41. A method as recited in claim 38, at least a portion of the face is disposed at an angle in a range between about 45° to about 110° relative to the horizontal;

WORKMAN NYDEGGER
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER
60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111